



City of Tacoma

City Council Action Memorandum

TO: Hyun Kim, Interim City Manager
FROM: Council Member Olgy Diaz and Senior Council Policy Analyst Lynda Foster
COPY: City Clerk and City Council
SUBJECT: **Resolution - Clarifying use of City of Tacoma property for federal civil immigration enforcement operations - December 9, 2025**
DATE: December 2, 2025

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution directing the City Manager to clarify the use of City of Tacoma property for federal civil immigration enforcement operations, as directed in Resolution 41627.

COUNCIL SPONSORS:

Mayor Woodards, Council Member Diaz and Council Member Sadalge

BACKGROUND:

On February 25, 2025, the Tacoma City Council adopted Resolution 41627 that states it is the policy of the City of Tacoma that no City funds, facilities, property, equipment, or personnel will be used to investigate, enforce, cooperate with, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of any federal registration or surveillance programs or any other laws, rules, or policies that target individuals in Tacoma solely on the basis of race, religion, immigration, or citizenship status, or national or ethnic origin; provided that, this policy shall not prohibit the collection, use, or disclosure of information that is required to comply with state or federal law, or in response to a lawfully issued court order.

To clarify how the City Manager should implement Resolution 41627 as applied to City-owned property, this resolution directs the City Manager to:

- Review and assess the potential for legislation to prohibit U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.) from using City property for the purposes of staging or other activities related to civil immigration enforcement, including a legal analysis of the possible enforcement options and necessary signage, as well as any other legal considerations; and
- Create a plan for identifying the City-owned property that could be used for enforcement operations staging purposes for signage purposes if signs are determined to be necessary, as well as other implementation considerations.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

While developing Resolution 41627, sponsors met with a broad range of stakeholders to discuss and request feedback on this policy, including the Commission for Immigrant and Refugee Affairs, the Tacoma Healing Awareness Committee, the Tacoma Refugee Choir, One America, Advocates for Immigrants in Detention Northwest (AIDNW), Golden Bamboo Walking Group, the Eastside Neighborhood Advisory Council of Tacoma, the South End Neighborhood Council, and other local elected leaders. Community members have since asked for further work on this topic.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Approximately 7% of the US population, or 22.8 million people, are non-citizens. In 2017, nearly 260,000 people sought asylum, or protection from persecution, within the United States. As of 2022, over 12 percent of Tacoma's population was born outside the United States, and nearly 20 percent speak a language other than English at home. Today, immigrant communities are under threat of mass deportations. Anyone without secure immigration status may be subject to enforcement efforts. People who were ordered deported in the past and people who have had contact with the criminal legal system are at particular risk. These immigrant populations experience unique risks to health, including pre-migratory trauma, unsafe and stressful migration experiences, and post-migration discrimination. Human rights abuses can occur across this spectrum of the immigrant experience. In addition, these health behaviors and outcomes ripple throughout the communities to which immigrants belong.



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Economy/Workforce: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Increase positive public perception related to the Tacoma economy.

Civic Engagement: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Increase the number of residents who participate civically through volunteering and voting.

Increase the percentage of residents who believe they are able to have a positive impact on the community and express trust in the public institutions in Tacoma.

Representation at public meetings will reflect the diversity of the Tacoma community

Livability: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Improve access and proximity by residents to diverse income levels and race/ethnicity to community facilities, services, infrastructure, and employment.

Improve health outcomes and reduce disparities, in alignment with the community health needs assessment and CHIP, for all Tacoma residents

Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s)?

Every person has fundamental human rights. Targeting people solely on the basis of race, religion, immigration, or citizenship status, or national or ethnic origin is discriminatory action that harms our community. Efforts to strip civil rights from a portion of our community are designed to create fear and push communities into hiding and outside the social structure that holds our community together. By making clear the City will not participate in these actions, we build trust with community and create a more welcoming environment. This resolution seeks to further clarify implementation of Resolution 41627 and support its goals.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Take no action	Maintains more positive relationship with federal government	Does not protect individuals from being targeted solely on the basis of race, religion, immigration, or citizenship status, or national or ethnic origin

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

The City Manager shall report back on potential for legislation to prohibit U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (I.C.E.) from using City property for the purposes of staging or other activities related to civil immigration enforcement, and implementation considerations.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Sponsors recommend adopting this resolution and further clarifying the direction outlined in Resolution 41627.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The City Manager should include an overview of any fiscal impact in the information presented to the City Council as directed by this resolution.

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
1. N/A			



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What Funding is being used to support the expense?

Are the expenditures and revenues planned and budgeted in this biennium's current budget?

YES

Are there financial costs or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?

No

Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?

No

Will the legislation change the City's FTE/personnel counts?

No

ATTACHMENTS:

N/A